

Music Curriculum Coverage

Music is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate children. It is a vehicle for personal expression, and it can play an important part in the personal development of people. Music reflects the culture and society we live in, and so the teaching and learning of music enable children to better understand the world that they live in. We provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music, to develop the skills, to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms, and to begin to make judgements about the quality of music.

As a school, we use Music Express as the basis of a scheme of work and build upon this. We ensure that we are fulfilling the aims for musical learning stated in the English National Curriculum:

- perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions
- learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others
- understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

Music Express creates a cross-curricular approach to support children's learning in music and across other subjects through music. There is a steady progression both within each year and from one year to the next, ensuring consistent musical development.

Music Teaching and learning style

At Watton at Stone Primary School, we make music an enjoyable learning experience. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to build up the confidence of all children. Singing lies at the heart of good music teaching. Our teaching focuses on developing the children's ability to sing in tune and with other people. Through singing songs, children learn about the structure and organisation of music. We teach them to listen to and appreciate different forms of music. As children get older, we expect them to maintain their concentration for longer, and to listen to more extended pieces of music. Children develop descriptive skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent feelings and emotions. We teach them the disciplined skills of recognising pulse and pitch. We often teach these together. We also teach children to make music together, to understand musical notation, and to compose pieces.

Additional music teaching

We are fortunate to have a school choir that meets weekly and are actively involved in the Ware and Hertford Music Association. The choir performs at All Saints Church in a Community Christmas Service and also at the Music Festival in the Spring term. We are working with Hertfordshire Music Service and First Access. In Year 4, pupils from the whole year group learn music through musical games and learning to play a brass instrument taught by specialist instrumental teachers working alongside school staff. Children are offered the opportunity to study a musical instrument with peripatetic teachers. We currently offer guitar and violin. This is in addition to the normal music teaching of the school, and usually takes place during normal lessons, from which children are withdrawn for the duration of the instrumental lesson.

2016/2017 Yearly Topic Overview

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
KS1	<p><u>The Creepy Castle Instruments</u> <i>Exploring sounds</i></p> <p><u>Instruments Together</u> <i>Exploring steady beats and rhythms</i></p>	<p><u>Animals / Chinese New Year</u> <i>Exploring pitch</i> <i>Pentatonic scale and percussion</i></p> <p><u>Weather / Exploring sounds</u> <i>Developing sounds</i></p>	<p><u>Travel</u> <i>Exploring performance</i></p> <p><u>Water</u> <i>Exploring Pitch</i></p>
YEAR 3	<p><u>Music in the Environment</u> <i>Exploring composition</i></p> <p><u>Poetry in Music</u> <i>Exploring poetry</i></p>	<p><u>Music of China</u> <i>Exploring pitch</i></p> <p><u>Music of the Past</u> <i>Developing pitch</i></p>	<p><u>Music and the Human Body</u> <i>Exploring structure</i></p> <p><u>Music of the Ancient World</u> <i>Developing structure</i></p>
YEAR 4	<u>Mr Peach (First Access) Brass Instrument tuition</u>		
YEAR 5	<p><u>Life Cycles</u> <i>Exploring Structure</i></p> <p><u>Keeping Healthy</u> <i>Exploring Beat</i></p>	<p><u>Solar System</u> <i>Exploring listening (Science link)</i></p> <p><u>At the Movies</u> <i>Exploring Composition</i></p>	<p><u>Our Community</u> <i>Exploring Performance (History link)</i></p> <p><u>Celebration</u> <i>Exploring Performance (English) link)</i></p>
YEAR 6	<p><u>World Unite and Journeys</u> <i>Exploring beat and syncopation through song and body percussion / Exploring song cycles</i></p>	<p><u>Roots and Growth</u> <i>Traditional Ghanaian songs and percussion rhythms – the street is the setting for this unit – buskers and flash mob</i></p>	<p><u>Rapping and Performance</u> <i>Children write own rap songs. Practice and perform for school performance.</i></p>

Teachers use their judgements and progression of skills to assess children that are working 'towards', 'at' or 'above' Age Related Expectations